

for nearly everything I secured was precious.

I have for some time been especially interested in mosses, and here I found myself in their chosen home. They cushioned the rocks and trees, and often hung over the treacherous holes between the cliffs, drooping in masses like snow from the eaves of a house. They were embarrassing from their multitude. Any one mat that was dug up contained always a number of species interlaced. I shall have work for months in disentangling and naming them.

These few notes, I am aware, contain no information, but are given in hope that they may serve, perhaps, to call up to the minds of some a pleasant picture of two beautiful regions. I hope others of your readers may yet have an opportunity to dwell, as I did, for two months, among these magnificent mountains, and to contribute a little more knowledge of a flora so rich and fascinating.

—W. W. BAILEY, *Brown University.*

GENERAL NOTES.

Lactuca Scariola, L.—I collected *Lactuca Scariola*, L., in Cleveland, Ohio, August 11, 1882.—R. S. HUBBARD.

Gentiana crinita.—In the November number of the GAZETTE, Mr. Davenport calls attention to albinism in *Gentiana crinita*. I have several times in former years seen cases of this. One superb plant which I found near Diamond Hill, R. I., about two years ago, had thirty or more blossoms, all pure white. I have this year had a white specimen sent me from near Providence. I should have noticed these before, had I not in one instance, been informed that cases of albinism were too trivial to report. If so good a botanist as Mr. Davenport considers them of consequence, I shall at least be in excellent company.—W. W. BAILEY, *Providence, R. I.*

Lactuca Scariola, L.—Mr. Foerste's suggestion, in the November No. of the GAZETTE, respecting the probability of this plant being naturalized in Wisconsin, had already been verified. In Aug. 1880, I met with it, well established, along a road side, in Mukwanago, about 40 miles west of Milwaukee. In August of last year, I found it growing in abundance along R. R. tracks and upon the banks of the Maumee River, in the City of Toledo, O., and, in October last, I again met with it, growing near the Cattle Yards, at East Buffalo. To all these places it had evidently "come to stay." Doubtless, however, it had reached E. Buffalo as an adventive from the West.—DAVID F. DAY, *Buffalo, N. Y.*

Ejection of the Seed in *Cereus Emoryi*, Engelm.—I have a plant of *Cereus Emoryi* which produced last summer three flowers at the apex of a previous year's stem. Not being familiar with the species, the

specimen received almost daily attention. One morning a stream of black seeds was found to have been ejected from the apex of an erect fruit, and had coursed down the sides and over the brown spiny surface like a stream of lava from the top of a burning mountain. The placentous mass ejected with the seeds, hardens soon after ejection, and holds the seeds in place. The other two seed-vessels behaved in the same way, but in order to note what else might occur to favor the distribution, the seeds have been left in the channels of the dry streams until to-day—two months. The process of expulsion and the precise objects to be gained by this method, must be left to further investigation.—THOMAS MEEHAN.

Alaska Ferns.—The following species are to be added to the list previously published in the GAZETTE (Vol. VII, p. 96.) and belong to the same collection made by Mr. Turner on the Island of Unalaska, in 1879–80 and 81. The sheets containing them having been placed in another part of the package were overlooked when preparing the first list for publication.

15. *Adiantum pedatum*, L. Specimens characteristic.

16. *Phegopteris polypodioides*, Fee. Specimens very pubescent and scaly along the rachises. Some of them more rigid than eastern specimens and with different aspect, but a close examination fails to reveal any real difference in character.

Still another sheet contained quite a number of specimens of *Polypodium vulgare* showing considerable variation.—GEO. E. DAVENPORT, Medford, Mass.

Sound of Discharging Ascospores.—In collecting *Peziza pubida* this summer, I happened to place a box-full in the sunshine, when they began discharging the spores with a distinct and very peculiar fizzing noise, somewhat like the noise of soda-water. I tried many specimens with the same result. I have found no other species that exhibit this phenomenon. In *Science Gossip* for December 1871, however, there is an article on *P. aurantia* from which I quote the following: “ * * * I blew upon another, and found that about a second after I had blown upon it, it showered out, if I may so say, in all directions, chiefly around the edge. I did this repeatedly, and found that after they had been left five minutes or so, the same effect followed about a second after they had been blown upon; and what surprised me still more was, that several times, the “shower” in issuing forth *made a distinct sound*, which I cannot better describe than as a slight fizz.” My specimens, collected here, supposed to be *P. aurantia*, do not exhibit this peculiarity.—E. W. HOLWAY, Decorah, Iowa.

Marked Protandry.—In passing through the greenhouse last spring my attention was caught by the very marked protandry of the flowers of the Lemon-scented Pelargonium, *P. graveolens*, of the gardeners. On the large potted plant observed the flowers were in all stages of anthesis

and all the changes undergone by the stamens and style were clearly shown. The stamens are of very unequal lengths, the three superior ones (1, 2, 1, Fig.) being the shortest and united by their filaments. The two inferior (4, 4, Fig.) are longest and the remaining ones (3, 3, Fig.) intermediate in length. Two of the missing stamens are represented by sterile filaments but there is no trace of the inferior one (? Fig.). While the anthers are bursting the five stigmatic surfaces are closely pressed together. So perfect is the protandry that the anthers shrivel and drop off and the filaments wither and curl up before the stigmas are exposed. In rare instances one or two shriveled anthers persist until the style begins to open.— C. R. B.



Diagram of flower of *Petargonium graveolens*. Stamens numbered in the order of their length 4 being longest.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

PROF. C. E. BESSEY, with his family, is spending the winter in the east. Another botanical text-book will doubtless be the product of his freedom from class-work.

ILLINOIS INDUSTRIAL UNIVERSITY has quite a well organized Natural History Society. The programme for 1883, just received, shows one meeting, that of April 7, devoted to a botanical topic, viz: "Notes on Mosses," by Mr. A. B. Seymour.

E. RAY LANKESTER upholds in a vigorous article in *Nature* the view formerly fully presented by him in a memoir in the *Quart. Jour. Micros. Sci.* that the Chlorophyll corpuscles of *Hydra* are truly Chlorophyll corpuscles and not Unicellular Algae.

MR. A. H. CURTISS is now at work preparing his sixth fascicle of Florida plants, to be issued in February, which he expects to be more valuable than any of the preceding ones, and will contain very nearly all the South Florida plants which he has not previously distributed.

HENRY JOHN ELWES has published in London a most elaborate monograph of the genus *Lilium*, bearing the date of 1880. It is an Elephant folio and is one of those sumptuous volumes which are more apt to be published across the sea than here. Every species known to the author is figured, in natural size and colors, making 48 full-page plates.

WE WERE GUILTY of a little injustice in the December GAZETTE in speaking of Mr. Frank Bush's "Flora of Jackson Co., Mo.," when we wrote that the name of the state only appeared in the imprint. As